



# The Continental Chronicle

## The American Revolution Center At Valley Forge

Valley Forge National Historical Park has been working in partnership with the National Center for the American Revolution to improve the visitor experience at Valley Forge with plans for a new museum and collection resource facility, as well as new interpretive experiences in the landscape. This project has been fully integrated with the Park's developing General Management Plan and has been presented at numerous public meetings. The response from the public and the press has been resoundingly positive. This past spring, the Park and the Center worked together to complete two creative collaborations:

### *Develop a New Visual Identity*

The new museum has a new, simpler name, The American Revolution Center at Valley Forge, and an exciting new brand mark to capture the primary and most positive ideas about the Center. To develop the brand mark, the Center and Park worked with Landor, one of the world's leading branding and design firms, to identify and articulate

attributes of the Park and museum project that are uniquely relevant and differentiating. The new visual identity conveys these attributes. It gives the Center a face – one that people both nationally and internationally will come to recognize.

The visual identity is bold, energized and daring: much like the colonists who faced the world's greatest empire in the fight for self-governance. The word "revolution" is presented in a unique way and becomes revolutionary in itself. This presentation is unexpected and challenges the viewer to experience the "American Revolution" (as a phrase and an historical event) in a fresh, new way.

The strength of the identity lies in its simplicity. It is dignified and provocative at the same time. The identity stays true to the bold ideals at the heart of the revolution, but does so in a way that is inspired and contemporary. Just as the American colonists turned the world they knew "upside down," this new identity issues the same challenge to all of us to keep freedom's enduring spirit alive.

The new museum will be named the American Revolution Center at Valley Forge. However, the parent organization with whom the National Park Service has partnered, remains the same. The National Center for the American Revolution is a non-



Volunteers Beth Arnold, Fran Lapenna, Annina Baker, Dolores Narcisi, Marilyn Bunch, and Park Ranger Ajena Rogers at the "Women in the American Revolution" program, May 8, 2004. Other volunteers who participated in this program, but are not pictured here, include Nancy Loane, Arlene Osborne, and Kaylen Rogers.

profit, 501(c)(3) organization established by the Valley Forge Historical Society to implement Public Law 106-86 which authorized the public/private partnership.

### *King of Prussia Mall Activities*

Over 30 million people a year visit the King of Prussia Mall. This spring, the center and park worked together to reach out to that ready-made audience. The partners provided content for a "magalog"—part catalog and part magazine—that was mailed by the mall to over 90,000 homes in the region. This full-color, 66-page publication includes over 20 pages of content on the Revolution and the future American Revolution Center at Valley Forge. It is illustrated with artifacts from the center's collection.

At the mall, the partner and park

curatorial staff mounted a month-long special exhibit featuring the center and the park in the rotunda near Nordstrom's. The opening of the exhibit on April 15 was broadcast live on Channel 29. On Saturdays, special programming at the rotunda included the Oneida Indian Nation, living history reenactors, and children's activities. Display cubes throughout the mall housed replicas of Revolutionary artifacts and signage promoting the exhibit. The mall estimates that over one million people saw the display that month.

AMERICAN  
REVOLUTION  
CENTER  
AT  
VALLEY  
FORGE

New brand mark.

## Message from the Superintendent

Valley Forge NHP has received a lot of press recently and it is important that you know what's happening. In July, we acquired the Wagonseller farm, a tract of land on the north side of the park previously owned by the Toll Brothers. This parcel will eventually become an important part of the interpretive story of the encampment and of the rebirth of General Washington's Continental Army.

In June, progress on the American Revolution Center at Valley Forge slowed down, but it has not stopped completely. The project is under review by Washington and Congress. Valley Forge was not singled out on this; the review includes all large-scale partnership projects throughout the National Park system. And we will continue to build on our important and long-standing relationship with the Oneida Indian Nation.

There are a couple of up-coming retirements that should be mentioned. Scott Kalbach, Chief of Resource Management and Visitor Protection retired on Sept. 3, 2004. Lastly, I have announced my retirement to be effective January 2005. The search has already begun for my replacement.

I want to thank all volunteers for your hard work and dedication. We couldn't achieve our mission and provide positive visitor experiences without you.

- Arthur L. Stewart



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

### Valley Forge National Historical Park

P.O. Box 953  
Valley Forge, PA 19482  
Web site: [www.nps.gov/vafo](http://www.nps.gov/vafo)  
Email: [vafo\\_superintendent@nps.gov](mailto:vafo_superintendent@nps.gov)

### Park Welcome Center

610-783-1099

### Park Headquarters

(610) 783-1000  
fax (610) 783-1053

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

# College Students At Work

In May of 2004 Valley Forge National Historical Park opened their doors to college-aged Student Conservation Association (SCA) interns, volunteers, and other interns. The students all worked diligently at their individual tasks to fulfill the main objective of the Park and to expand their knowledge and love for the history that Valley Forge provides.

Michael Craig, 18, of Chester Brook, PA, is an intern for the park this summer. He recently graduated from Conestoga High School and plans to attend Messiah College in the fall. He decided to work at Valley Forge because he was interested to see how the structure of an institution related to education works. During his time here, he hopes to gain experience and learn how the park operates. When asked to provide some words of wisdom, he said, "In my experience at Valley Forge I have learned much about the curatorial aspect of an institution but more importantly about the society of an institution where eventually I may apply it toward the rest of my life."

Sara Margavitch, 19, of Glenside, PA, is volunteering many hours of her time to the needs of the park. She is a Junior at Elizabethtown College, majoring in history. She decided to volunteer at Valley Forge because she wanted some experience in the field of history. She hopes to learn how things work in a National Park and more about the encampment at Valley Forge. When asked to offer words of wisdom, she said, "Volunteering is really fun. It is an enriching experience and everyone should do it."

Heath Carelock, 23, of New Carrollton, MD, is working for the park as an SCA intern. He is a Senior at Edinboro University and majors in political science. He decided to come to Valley Forge for the opportunity at an internship. He hopes to build a

resume of public service as well as improve his people skills. Valley Forge has provided Heath with good friends, and the beauty of nature. "This is a beautiful place and we are all responsible for its history. We should wake up every morning with the motivation to preserve greatness."

Nichole Payne, 22 of Huston, TX, recently graduated from Sam Huston State University in Huntsville, TX. She is working for the park as an SCA intern. She originally looked for an internship in the Huston area; however Valley Forge was appealing to her for its urban environment. She hopes to learn to pace herself when giving speeches. Valley Forge has taught her an appreciation for the extreme hardship suffered by the soldiers during the encampment. She says, "Don't be jaded by the murky governmental process. Take solace in the fact that you love what you do."

Sharon Faust, 21, of Pottstown, PA, is working for the park as a volunteer intern. She is a Senior at Millersville University and is majoring in Communications. She came to Valley Forge for the experience of working with the public. She hopes to leave with a better understanding of crisis management, and practical public relations techniques. She says, "I grew up in the area, and when I was a child, the park was my play-pen. When I was a teenager, the park was my stomping grounds. Now as an adult, the park is a valuable piece of property with inspirational stories of the soldiers, and a place where one's imagination of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century can run wild."

Emily Hildebrant, 22, of Longmont CO, is working at the park as an SCA intern. She recently graduated from Beloit College with a dual major in history and anthropology, as well as museum studies. While at Valley Forge she hopes to learn about the American Revolution



Heath Carelock and Nikki Payne at the Welcome Center Information Desk.



Emily Bould ready for work.

and enjoy this life experience. She says, "Remember we are here for the visitor and the history."

Emily Bould, 23, of Long Island NY, recently graduated from University of Buffalo with a double major in psychology and theatre. She is working for Valley Forge as an SCA and wants to learn more about the history of the Revolutionary war, as well as the efforts of the soldiers of the first army. She looks forward to learning how to interpret history to the public. When asked to provide words of wisdom, Emily stated, "Life is short so get out to see and learn as much as you can."

# Volunteer Spotlight



**Name:** Otto Jommersbach

**Age:** 78

**City/Town you live in:**  
Wayne, PA

**Family:** wife, Dottie; 2 daughters: Kris and Jean; 3 grandchildren

**Occupation:** Retired from Chemical Sales

**Special Interests/Hobbies:** Gardening, Travel, and Volunteer work

**How long have you been a maintenance volunteer at Valley Forge?** 10 years

**Why did you decide to**

**become a volunteer?**

I love the park. I saw the amount of work needed to be done, and I just knew they needed help. When you are as fortunate as I have been, I feel like you should pay back and give something of yourself.

**What is the most interesting thing you have done in your life?** Getting married and raising 2 wonderful children

**What is the one thing that you'd like to do or try?**  
Be able to continue to travel

**If you grew up in this area, what is one of your fondest memories?** 1976 bicentennial at Valley Forge National Historical Park, I will never forget it for as long as I live.

**Name:** Arthur "Art" Sattolo

**Age:** 70

**City/Town you live in:**  
Phoenixville, PA

**Family:** wife, Patricia; 5 kids and a flock of grandchildren

**Occupation:** Retired from GE/Lockhead Martin and the Marine Corps Reserves.

**Special Interests/Hobbies:** history buff

**How long have you been an interpretation volunteer at Valley Forge?** About 2 years

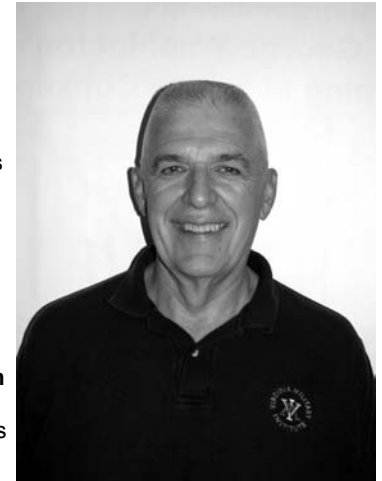
**Why did you decide to become a volunteer?**

I live in the area and I'm a history buff

**What is the most interesting thing you have done in your life?** While in the aerospace industry, I worked on hardware for moon landings. I helped build the Limerick power plant. My favorite time was my 5 years in the service, doing sea duty all over Europe, the North Atlantic, and the Caribbean.

**What is the one thing you'd like to do or try?** I've already flown upside-down in an aircraft, parachuted, and climbed mountains—there's not much left to do at my age.

**Where did you grow up?** I grew up in western PA and moved here in 1966. I used to drive through the park to go to work.



## Park Reorganization Effective October 1

Over the past year, Valley Forge NHP has been engaged in several program assessments and planning sessions associated with the overall future of the park and the development of the American Revolution Center at Valley Forge. Based on all of this information, and a dwindling budget, it is clear that the workforce needs to be reshaped to meet our mission. This is a time of great change at Valley Forge NHP, as well as in the National Park Service. Due to budget constraints, we are unable to fill positions and we must work more efficiently

and effectively to meet our mission.

In planning for reorganizing the park staff, our aim is to redistribute some tasks, eliminate those we no longer need to do since the needs are different from when the park was first established in 1976, better use the skills and talents of existing staff and prepare ourselves for the future as outlined through our General Management Plan. We will reduce the number of divisions from five to four essentially eliminating one division chief position. We will

combine work groups differently to achieve efficiencies. An example of this is bringing all of the rangers, both law enforcement and interpretive, under one division. This process will take place incrementally over the next year.

This will not impact any volunteers directly. You will continue to work with the same staff, but you may work under a different division.

## Preserving Trails

Preserving and maintaining over 20 miles of trails and educating the public about them are critical parts of the Valley Forge National Historical Park mission. We depend on volunteers who contribute their time, energy, and enthusiasm to the park's Trails Program. People just like you volunteered thousands of hours conducting rehabilitation and stabilization projects, assisting the park in protecting miles of trails.

Want to get in on the action? Please contact the park V-I-P Coordinator at 610/783-1044

to learn about volunteer trail opportunities, such as group projects, youth projects, and individuals projects. And don't forget, no experience is required—just a willingness to contribute and have fun!

Special thanks to the Boy Scouts of America, Delaware Valley Appalachian Mountain Club and all of the trail volunteers that have contributed their time, energy and talents!



Michael Freedman (working on his Eagle Scout Project) and Boy Scout Troop 106 carry logs to the Mount Misery Trail work site, May 2004.



## Picture Gallery:

"Women and Children in the Camp" program, Saturday, August 7, 2004.



Left: Volunteer Tom Kinter shows drilling to kids.



Right: Volunteer Barb Reed as a seamstress.



Left: Volunteer Marilyn Bunch demonstrates laundering activities.

"The Continental Chronicle" is a quarterly publication of Valley Forge National Historical Park.

### Editor and Park VIP Coordinator

Michelle Ortwein

### Contributors

Meghan Carfioli  
Sharon Faust  
Deirdre Gibson  
William Lange  
Zee Ann Mason  
Michelle Ortwein  
Ernestine White

### Comments? Write to:

Arthur L. Stewart, Superintendent  
Valley Forge National Historical Park  
P.O. Box 953  
Valley Forge, PA 19482

# Streambank Restoration

Great efforts by park staff and volunteers have been recently made towards streambank restoration along Valley Creek. Brian Lambert, Natural Resources Manager at Valley Forge National Historical Park, worked diligently to protect and enhance the natural wonders of the park until his untimely death in November 2003. Those who walk about Valley Creek just above the Knox Covered Bridge see the living evidence of Brian Lambert's labors to protect this jewel.

One of Brian's many projects was coordination of an effort to stabilize the streambanks of Valley Creek using vegetation upstream of the Knox Covered Bridge. Six organizations partnered and were awarded funding through the Delaware Estuary Grant Program to plant riparian buffers consisting of native trees, shrubs and live stakes. Pete Goodman, President of the Valley Forge Chapter of Trout Unlimited, volunteered to lead the project to completion in Brian's absence. The Partners met throughout the winter 2003 and spring 2004, selecting plants, purchasing all of the needed equipment, plotting out the planting locations, clearing the project through the park administrators, and recruiting volunteers toward ensuring its success.

In early April the Partners, park staff and volunteers installed fencing to exclude deer from browsing and prevent people from trampling the new plantings. Pete Goodman, Chuck Marshall, Jim Leonard, Jim Reamer, Rod Horton, Bob Ballantyne, and Meghan Carfioli put in most of the posts for the vegetation enclosures. The next step was to attach the plastic fencing to the posts. Rob Kofer, Susan Wright, Elizabeth Carfioli, Craig Thomas, and Owen Owens secured the fencing.

With all the posts and fencing up, the



Mike Bertram and other volunteers plant trees at Valley Creek on Earth Day, April 22, 2004.

enclosures were ready for plants to be tucked back into soil once inhabited by their ancestors. Restoration planners from the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, Dan Salas and Dave Williams, carefully selected the species of plants for this project and distributed them among the enclosures. Chuck Marshall worked with our Conestoga High School and Friends of Valley Forge partners to coordinate the logistics of Conestoga High School students planting the vegetation for Earth Day, 22 April 2004, as well as recruiting and training work group supervisors.

This entire restoration project was completed with the helpful hands and hearts of park staff, partner organizations and volunteers who donated their time toward fulfilling Brian's vision of restored streambanks along this length of Valley Creek.

## Looking for a Good Book?

Here are some suggestions that are also required reading material for all new interpretation staff and volunteers.

- [Birthplace of an Army](#), John B.B. Trussel
- [Great and Capital Changes](#), Barbara Pollarine
- [Valley Forge: Making and Remaking a National Symbol](#), Lorette Treese
- [Valley Forge Winter: Civilians and Soldiers in War](#), Wayne Bodle
- [The American Revolution](#), John R. Alden
- [The American Soldier of the Revolutionary War: Illustrated Drill Manual and Regulations](#), edited by A.N. Schultz
- [Indispensable Man: the Life of George Washington](#), Thomas Flexner
- [Collector's Illustrated Encyclopedia of the American Revolution](#), George C. Newmann and Frank Kravic
- [Best Poor Man's Country: Early Southeastern Pennsylvania](#), James T. Lemon
- [Interpreting Our Heritage](#), Freeman Tilden